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Meeting Notes
ND Economic Development Foundation Meeting
Wednesday, July 9, 2008
North Dakota State College of Science – Wahpeton, ND

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Pamela Schmidt, Vice-Chairperson.

Members Present: Dante Miller, Pamela Schmidt, Elaine Fremling, and Shane Goettle.

Members Present Via Phone: Guy Moos, Kathy Gaddie, Tim Hennessy, Duaine Espegard, John Paulsen, Frank Keogh.

Members Absent: Bill Shalhoob, Bob Mau, Bruce Furness, Bruce Smith, Bruce Thom, Chuck Hoge, Daniel Traynor, Harold Newman, Judith Paukert, Mark Nisbet, Philip Boudjouk.

Guests Present: Jill Schwab, Jim Hirsch, Justin Dever, Laura Willard, Paul Lucy, Amy Wobbema, Bob Wurl, Mylo Einarson, Chelsey Richter, Sharon Jangula.

Guests Present Via Phone: Carol Goodman and Patricia Bowen.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

Pamela Schmidt provided a welcome at 10:05 a.m. and asked for introductions in person and on the telephone.

AGENDA REVIEW:

Pamela Schmidt announced that today's agenda will need to be revised due to Shane's departure to follow-up on a lead on the Imation campus in Wahpeton. The Department of Commerce Update will move to 10:15 a.m., Old Business will move to 10:25 a.m., the Committee Reports

will move to 11:15 a.m., and the Bottineau Community Roundtable Update will move to 11:50 a.m.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE UPDATE:

2008 Fourth Quarter Meeting and Community Roundtable Luncheon Locations

Jill Schwab reported that the fourth quarter board meeting will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Minot, ND in conjunction with Norsk Hostfest on Friday, October 3, 2008. The meeting will include presentations regarding strategic planning efforts from economic developers residing in the western portion of the state. Xcel Energy has offered the Foundation 12 free tickets to the Daniel O'Donnell concert at 7:00 p.m. on October 3rd on a first-come, first-serve basis. The ticket will admit you to all of the free stages in addition to the concert and also serves as the general admission pass. Ticket reservations should be made prior to mid-September and room blocks will be held until two weeks prior to the event. There is a block of rooms being held under the "XCEL Energy" block on a first-come, first-serve basis. You can also purchase a ticket for the Saturday morning Randy Travis concert for a price of \$25.00 from the Norsk Hostfest Association by calling 701-852-2368.

Shane Goettle and Jill Schwab explained that the Foundation will host its 3rd quarter Community Roundtable luncheon on Thursday, August 14, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT in Beulah, ND at the GrandView Steakhouse and Lounge. The Foundation will be taking a tour of the Dakota Gasification Plant (largest carbon sequestration project in North America) and Coteau Properties after the luncheon. Further details will follow when invites are sent out next week.

Anyone interested in transportation to either of the meetings should contact Jill Schwab at 701-328-5312 or jischwab@nd.gov.

Workforce Congress Meeting

Shane Goettle explained that a Workforce Congress meeting was held in Bismarck on April 10, 2008. Tom Miller & Associates was hired to write the final report for the Interim Workforce Committee. The report has been presented to the Interim Workforce Committee recently and a follow-up meeting will be held on August 1, 2008, to address workforce policy. The main focus areas within the report are job growth, productivity, ideas concerning incentives to help students stay in ND, workforce marketing and attraction, training programs, workforce needs, dropout rates in post-secondary education, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), and increased emphasis on the trades and vocational training. The number of job openings in the oil and gas industry is higher than initially projected in a study conducted two years ago. Communities are setting up resources to attract talent outside of the state. Williston State College is struggling with enrollments since many of the youth are working in the oil fields vs. attending post-secondary education.

Oil companies operating in Mountrail County are currently recruiting retired personnel from the Minot Air Force Base. Red Rock Community College in Wyoming has set up 40 hour training

courses which allow students to work and attend college at the same time. Williston State College is looking at the possibility of this model in the future.

To date, as a direct result of the out-of-state Experience ND events, there are 14 new families that have moved to North Dakota within the past year. Job Service has reported that there are currently over 14,000 open jobs in the state ranging from \$30,000 to over \$100,000 annually.

A new program housed within the Department of Commerce called Operation Intern matches up students with businesses through grant dollars and a 10% tax credit. This program has had great success over the past 3 months. The budget for this program is \$600,000.

Jim Hirsch reported that there are over 70 companies signed up for Operation Intern with 164 positions filled. There are currently 47 open positions. The program works with higher education, department heads, instructors, and students. The Tax Department would like to extend a tax credit to apprenticeship programs to help with the shortage in the trades.

Shane Goettle reported that the Career Awareness Program has also been developed into "ND Works!" to put together marketing information to students, parents, and teachers. This program does not have any appropriated operating funds, so it is simply one FTE set up to collaborate with other entities. It has been determined that parents have a 47% influence on students according to a recent survey.

In a few weeks, the Department of Commerce is going to be launching an ad and billboard campaign to highlight job openings with an enhanced Job Service website located at www.findjobsnd.com. Press Conferences in Fargo and Bismarck will be coordinated by Commerce staff and Job Service and will be held on July 21, 2008, to unveil the enhanced website. A brochure called "HOTJOBS.com" which will be featured at the press conference and will be distributed shortly by Job Service North Dakota. This brochure lists the top 40 career opportunities in North Dakota through the year 2016 with an income of \$35,000 and above.

Governor's Rural Community Summit

Foundation members are encouraged to attend the Governor's Rural Community Summit on August 26-27, 2008, at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck, ND. The Department of Commerce has partnered with the Governor's Office, USDA Rural Development and EDND. The Summit will begin with Governor Hoeven speaking. The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer has been invited to speak at the conference. Tom Dorr, the Under Secretary for USDA-Rural Development, and Jack Shultz, author of *Boomtown USA* have confirmed their attendance. Ed Schafer will speak to the impacts the farm bill has had on rural communities. Board leaders are asked to get involved in small towns to lead through change. The session will end with dine-arounds on the first day. The second day the conference will ask for top issues communities are facing. Those common ideas will be placed into breakout sessions to stimulate legislative policy development. The day will end with a "best practices" session. The Foundation is being asked to sponsor \$1,000 to help host the Summit. The total cost of the Summit is \$25,000. The Department of Commerce, USDA, and EDND are each contributing \$5,000 to sponsor the Governor's Rural Community Summit.

Empower ND Commission

Shane Goettle has chaired the Empower ND Commission over the past 10 months. The Commission has assembled a final report that contains a set of recommendations for the Governor, the Legislature and for Congress on North Dakota's energy policy. The recommendations include 21 goals through the year 2025, 40 policy statements that reflect positions the state needs to take in order to achieve these 21 energy goals, and 98 initiatives for the legislature, the Governor and Congress to consider. The document is available on the Commerce website at:

http://www.communityservices.nd.gov/uploads%5Cresources%5C527%5Cempower_ndweb.pdf.

The document received unanimous support from the Commission members and this is the first time that the energy interests have been brought together at one time to devise this document which is a historic first.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legislative Issues – Commerce Budget and Legislative Session (2009-2011)

Shane Goettle highlighted the Department of Commerce's budgeting process. The Governor has asked Commerce to present a 100% budget which does include cuts due to increased costs in advertising and travel. He reported that he has internally capped request for enhancements at 4% over the previous biennium's budget. Partner fund requests have been considered as well. The travel budget in the Tourism Division is very expensive due to advertising in the Canadian market which means that Commerce needs to ask for additional funding to maintain the level of activity already in place. The Department of Commerce has grown with new programs and services over the past few years while keeping our administration levels the same as when we were created in 2001. The Department of Commerce will be requesting 1 additional FTE for administrative purposes rather than using the money in the current budget for temporary administrative employees.

Other priorities are funds for the Small Business Development Centers. The North Dakota Trade Office needs additional funding for export expansion. The Manufacturing Extension Partnership will try to maximize what we expect will be the national match with an increase in the budget. Commerce will try to sustain the budget for the Rural Development Council and the Center for Technology and Business.

The Workforce Development Division will conduct Community Labor Availability Studies to address workforce issues and the Tourism Division will try to jump North Dakota ahead of other states in terms of tourism marketing numbers. There is increased public scrutiny on public spending and a Legislative Committee has requested information (chaired by Al Carlson) from the North Dakota Department of Commerce regarding its budget. The Innovate ND program is doing very well and we hope to see additional resources in this budget in the next biennium.

During 2009, the Foundation should focus on the review of the Strategic Plan for economic development in the state with revisions necessary based on community input during 2008. During the first quarter of 2009 the information would be presented to the Foundation.

Impacts on the Number of New Jobs

Shane Goettle will take up this issue with the IB & L Committee on July 10, 2008, to determine the resources necessary to determine job creation efforts and the overall economic impact in the state. Since 2000, North Dakota has created over 30,000 net jobs, average wages have increased \$8,403, capital personal income has increased by \$9,743, gross domestic product has grown by 56.18%, and exports have grown by 224.88%. Last year North Dakota had the fastest rate of growth in exports in the country at 34.78%. Unfortunately, manufacturing growth is expected to see a big growth slow down in the future unlike what we've seen in the previous years. New opportunities are expected in energy, agriculture, technology, and tourism. Advanced manufacturing may see growth, especially if connected with increased trade volume.

Justin Dever from the Department of Commerce put together a document outlining the above statistics called North Dakota's Economic Progress Since 2000. Jill Schwab will e-mail this document to all Foundation members and will also take this document to the next Community Roundtable meeting in Beulah on August 14th as a handout for attendees to showcase North Dakota's growth.

Quantify Revenue Loss for Legislature Due to Lack of Workforce

Shane Goettle explained that he called a meeting with Maren Daley, Corey Fong, and Lisa Feldner to begin discussions about this topic. The shape of the workforce is shifting so rapidly, that the value of the data may be outdated. The legislature will already be well-versed on workforce issues, and it will be difficult to determine the amount of outsourcing with the lack of workers. A study would be very costly and administrative staff time is limited at the Department of Commerce to try to put a report together prior to the session.

Elaine Fremling suggested that the Foundation take some time to speak to existing businesses that will be experiencing a loss and ask those businesses what the impact would be on their organization if they lost say 10% due to retirements. This may help increase information awareness.

Jim Hirsch suggested that Valley City might be a starting point to determine how many businesses have been impacted by the loss of workforce. CC Benefits, the University System, and the Workforce Intelligence Council could also be resources to access some of the statistics.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee

Quarterly Financial Statements

Elaine Fremling reported that the Foundation's Profit & Loss Statement from April – June 2008 reflects a net income of \$7,202.65, the Yearly Profit and Loss Detail from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, shows a net income of \$11,191.51, the Balance Sheet reflects \$98,457.88 of which \$48,169.69 are liabilities. A portion of the \$48,169.69 (\$22,669.70) is from the Workforce Development Division's Restricted Assets account. The Statement of Cash Flows at the end of June 2008 is \$57,957.89. The Customer Balance Summary is \$25,499.99 which includes accounts receivables from the BSC Foundation, Eagle Operating, Inc., Fisher Industries, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson, Scheels Corporate, and the State Bank & Trust in Fargo.

Benchmark Expenditure Request

Jill Schwab explained that the Foundation paid \$15,000 to Eide Bailly in late 2007 and early 2008 for a complete review of the Benchmark Updates contained within the Strategic Plan. The North Dakota Department of Commerce will reimburse the Foundation \$15,000 for the cost of updating the Benchmarks in the near future.

Workforce Development Division Restricted Assets Request

Jim Hirsch reported that the Workforce Development Division has had two requests recently for funds. One request is for \$1,500 for a grant for two individuals to attend a national Young Professionals Summit.

The second request is for the Workforce Development Council's Strategic Planning Retreat in Medora on August 18-19, 2008. Travel expenses for legislators, member meals, lodging, and tickets for the Pitchfork Fondue and the Medora Musical are being requested by the Division. The Retreat is a follow-up to the creation of the Talent Initiative in August 2006 and the Governor's Workforce Summit in October 2007. The Foundation members should let Jim Hirsch know if they are interested in attending at 701-328-5345 or jhirsch@nd.gov. The amount of the Medora expenditure request is estimated to be approximately \$6,500.

Yearly Budget Review and Approval

Elaine Fremling reviewed the projected 2008-2009 Budget with members. The projected contributions through 2009 total \$12,500 with total expenditures of \$24,800, leaving the budget at -\$12,300. The budget does not take into account the \$15,000 account receivable from the North Dakota Department of Commerce for the benchmark expenditure (which would then bring the budget to \$2,700).

Marketing events expenditures within the budget include three events: November 2008 in Denver, CO (\$3,000); January 2009 in Minneapolis/St. Paul (\$3,000); and May 2009 a job fair (\$5,000 - location TBD). With these figures in mind, the Foundation recognizes the need to continue fundraising efforts throughout the next fiscal year.

Elaine Fremling asked that someone from the Foundation step in and lead the efforts for fundraising this next year, or at the very least, assist her in leading the effort.

NEW BUSINESS:

Strategic Planning

Mylo Einarson ~ Grafton Economic Development Office

Mylo is the City Administrator in Grafton as a member of the Mayor's Committee on Economic Development. Their vision is to be recognized as a leader in promoting and enhancing growth for their community.

The goal is to increase the average household income, increase sales tax proceeds, and a skilled workforce. They focus on five core areas:

- 1) Primary Sector Business
- 2) Retention and Expansion
- 3) Community Development
- 4) Information
- 5) Retail Enhancement

They have a direct revenue source with a local sales tax option of 1.5%. The largest employer in Grafton is the State Developmental Center, followed by Marvin Windows. The city focuses on recruitment efforts for high wage jobs and a quality skilled workforce (Marvin Windows – 50 new jobs at \$28,000). They offer direct loans, grants, and interest buy downs. Their priorities have shifted to grow Grafton.

The city has a \$20,000 grant for new single family homes which is funded by Marvin Windows. There are no income guidelines, no residency requirements, and there have been 16 new homes completed or under construction since the program began in March 2007. They also have a Lessard Addition which is a 34 lot development with paved streets, water, and sewer installed. The lots are across from the elementary school and the lot price is \$1. Specials run \$2,000 with a 2 year, \$75,000 property tax exemption.

The Renaissance Zone in Grafton was approved on February 1, 2008. They currently have 7 projects approved and under construction. They also offer \$10,000 matching grants for façade improvements in the central business district.

Carol Goodman – Cavalier County Job Development Authority

Carol Goodman began her presentation by saying that Cavalier County has a good farming base. They have a Langdon NDSU Research Extension Center, small manufacturing plants, solid infrastructure, and community resources. They are undergoing a \$3 million renovation on the hospital in Langdon. Challenges are population decline in the past 25 years – down 39% from 1980-2000. Langdon and Munich are the only remaining school districts in the county. The agricultural community has bounced back in the last 18 months and most of the farms in the county range from 8,000-10,000 acres.

“The Ghost of ABM” – lingering impression that economic development is not getting the job done. The economic model has been in place since 1990. The program has a wide range of incentives and programs including Business Retention and Expansion. They have had to deal with a generational transfer of businesses in their community. They’ve had three successful transfers recently. Cavalier County has been through BUILD, strategic planning practices, and 1/3 of the economic development investment will reach \$1M in project investments in 2008.

Langdon has a Renaissance Zone which has produced 20 projects in less than 4 years. They have a Learning Facility at Lake Region State College, a storefront improvement program (\$50,000), and have been a USDA/Rural Development “Champion Community” since 2001. They have received \$960,000 through Community Champion JDA.

Some highlights contained in their Strategic Plan include:

- Agriculture Opportunities
- Business Development
- Educational Opportunities
- Improvement of Health Care
- Adequate Housing Opportunities
- Improvement of Infrastructure
- Increase Tourism

Projects currently in development in 2008 are an ABM site at Nekoma, Interpretive Center, writing grant applications, Chamber and CVB partnerships, wind energy opportunities, and Devils Lake Region Partnership Strategic Plan(s).

The Foundation can support the higher education roundtable plan, workforce/population recruitment incentives, strategic planning and leadership, and to establish a task force to accelerate development of energy/agricultural opportunities. Two ideas that came out of the ND Workforce Congress in 2008 that Carol would like the Foundation to consider is the Prairie Innovation Zone Program and the Vision North Dakota:

- 1) Prairie Innovation Zone Program – The program would be intended to renew and focus North Dakota’s commitment to creating new technologies and new entrepreneurs – using the North Dakota University System to deliver economic development opportunities throughout the state. Partnerships will be formed by a combination of institutions of higher education, private businesses, business support organizations, commercial lending institutions, venture capital networks including angel investors, and foundations. Each zone will be mandated to include participation from these types of partners in planning and execution of the zone plan, including the establishment of objectives, goals and benchmarks and the identification of leveraged resources. These partnerships will choose an organization to serve as Zone Coordinator, which will be the administrative and program development agent for the initiative. (Pennsylvania)
- 2) Vision North Dakota - The program would be designed to assist communities in the development and creation of major tourism facilities (minimum \$1M in scope) for permanent

cultural, recreational, entertainment and educational attractions available to the general public. These attractions would position a community to take advantage of economic development opportunities in tourism, and strengthen a community's competitiveness as a place to work and live. Forms of assistance would include grants, interest-bearing or non-interest-bearing loans, interim financing, interest subsidies, deferred payment loans, loan guarantees, float loans or other forms of assistance. Financial assistance may be a multi-year award paid in increments. (Iowa)

Sharon Jangula – Linton Industrial Development Corporation

Linton has a population of approximately 1600 and Emmons County has about 4,200. They currently renovated the city with a 1.2 mile walking/bike path, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and a swimming pool remodel. Linton's mission statement is "A friendly and thriving community that provides a safe, clean, and healthy environment for family, business, and industry."

Linton's focus is to attract new businesses. They would like the state to partner and come to the city to see what the community offers to potential site selectors.

They have a 2% city sales tax. 1% is used for economic development and improvement, the other 1% is used to pay off the swimming pool renovation. Sharon Jangula would like to see more promotion in the community for Dairy and Ag Days and the fall Chili Cook-Off. The city offers a nice golf course, renovated hospital, and chamber-sponsored events. They are looking at retention and succession plans, an alumni outreach program (Emmons County Alumni). They focus on downtown and highway beautification and restoration of vacant buildings and spaces.

Linton would like to develop a theme for the community for visitors. Main Street is still vacant; however, Sharon Jangula is working with the owners of an old building to lease out and renovate an old theatre into a fine dining, performing arts/movie theater center. They are trying to renovate a senior center. They would like to work with the Department of Transportation to improve signage and scenery with trees, shrubs, and flowers. The park board is supporting efforts to enhance their parks since there is not adequate playground space. A committee has worked on promoting Christmas in the Park and they have an excellence K-12 educational system. They would like to see a K-12 entrepreneurial program within the school system. Sharon Jangula would like to see more youth representation on local boards and committees and ample opportunities for recreational opportunities for youth.

The Beaver Bay Recreational Area water levels are very low; therefore, Sharon Jangula would like to see support for "Voices for Lake Oahe" in water impoundment efforts. The Nakota Horse Conservancy is working with Linton to move the project forward. Linton has an aging population and the community would like to see a "Meals on Wheels" program since this was discontinued awhile ago. Linton has conducted leadership seminars in conjunction with the Horizons Program that they participated in.

Patricia Bowen – Ellendale Job Development Authority

Ellendale has approximately 1500 people. They are 4 miles from the South Dakota border. They have help from the NDSU Vitality Center for community improvement. They currently have a blog and try to promote essential services. The community has internet access encouraging people to think like entrepreneurs. They have a pharmacy, hardware store, floral store, and the greenhouse draws people from around the region which promotes economic development. They are going to be going through a city highway project in 2009 and will be building a new golf course. They will work on the swimming pool, rodeo grounds, and walking paths. They have raised \$200,000 to resurrect their 100 year old opera house.

They have a good amount of deteriorated housing in Ellendale but are looking for some improvements through the Renaissance Program and by building single and multi-family housing units. The city works with employers to determine the types of individuals desired within the community, they would like to see more young people involved in JDA and volunteer groups, they value the senior population in the community and would like them to be involved in the workforce.

Some of the focus areas within Ellendale's Strategic Plan are:

Maintain and expand existing businesses

Offer resources for training, finances, planning, hiring. Use JDA, Job Service, Dickey Rural Networks and others.

Help businesses plan for transfer after retirement of owners.

Pay particular attention to keeping essential services such as dentist, vet, pharmacy in addition to promoting what we already have: agriculture, livestock, energy, art, hunting and fishing, golfing, history.

Improving business and attraction signage, promotion, and cross-promotion.

Encouraging and supporting use of Internet, MP-3, reservation, and other technology to promote businesses.

Increase new business startups and attraction

Encourage entrepreneurs from among current residents by offering resources, education and incentives for new ideas. Join in Entrepreneur Week activities, Tiger Woods' Start Something, enlist help of college students to partner with middle school students. Use Ellendale Venture Fund. Look at youth business programs that may include 4-H, scouts, FBLA, etc.

Welcome new businesses into the community by helping them with relocation, hiring, adjustment.

Recruit and grow diverse retail and service businesses to not only serve our residents but also to attract customers from other areas.

Improve infrastructure and amenities

Work to fill vacant buildings, improve sidewalks and alleys, spruce up public and private buildings by the use of public and private investment.

Keep working to establish planned amenities that include a new golf course clubhouse, frisbee golf course, RV park, walking path, pool and park improvements and the county fair and rodeo grounds using city funds, private contributions and grants.

Preserve and restore Ellendale's historic buildings as possible.

Support and promote activities of all kinds in town, particularly Applefest, all-school reunions and the county fair.

Improve and increase the number of hotel rooms available.

Increase housing availability

Through zoning enforcement and incentives such as the Renaissance Zone program, demolish substandard properties and improve and increase affordable and habitable housing both for purchase and rental.

The city will work with employers and the college to assess their needs for housing prospective and present workers and students.

Encourage increased resident involvement and volunteerism

The city's churches, schools, government, arts and other activities rely heavily on our residents who volunteer, but we recognize the need to encourage more youth to become involved by attending events and volunteering. Work to attract families to a wide variety of events that may include library, museum, music, plays, potlucks.

Work to improve relationship between Trinity Bible College faculty and students and city residents and businesses. We believe that cooperation with help us all accomplish more things.

Improve wealth capture

Encourage Ellendale's bankers, attorney and even funeral directors to encourage residents to include the Ellendale Foundation or other organizations in their estate planning.

Expand health care

In order to remain a more full-service community, we believe we need to expand our health care options beyond the two clinics and two senior living facilities. We think it is important to provide urgent, 24-hour care for residents of all ages and for our visitors and energy project workers.

Amy Wobbema – New Rockford Area Community Betterment Corporation

Eddy County has access to three rail systems, a major U.S. highway, and air transportation. Private non-farm employment rose 3.8% from 2000-2004. Top employers are Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd (150 employees), 4th Corporation (80 employees) and North American Bison Coop (60 employees). These 3 employers make up 21% of the workforce in New Rockford. Eddy County has seen a steady increase in taxable sales from 2002-2005 along with a modest increase in the average wage. Their unemployment rate is 4.8% with 20% of the residents being self-employed and 13% are government workers. Their vision is to increase the county's wealth and population.

Strategic Plan priorities include:

- Diversify and expand agriculture industry
- Attract and retain young people
- Bring new jobs and businesses to the county
- Retain access to healthcare; add services
- Increase recreational opportunities
- Expand cultural facilities
- Promote tourism (opera house – brings in about 5,000 visitors per year)
- Maintain public safety; reduce risky behaviors

Other priorities are housing developments, wealth transfer strategy, and the Horizon's Program in Sheyenne, ND. They sponsored a storefront improvement grant with 24 participants with a total investment of \$45,000 and a \$17,000 match from NRACBC. The city conducted a library expansion/relocation project with access to public computers. Their Renaissance Zone was effective January 1, 2008, and is 25.5 blocks in length. Their park/swimming pool will undergo a renovation this fall with CDBG funds and will be ADA compliant. They have housing incentives in New Rockford on abatement/real estate taxes. They established a North Dakota Community Foundation in February 2008 and have raised \$17,000 to date. The first grant is to be awarded in 2009.

Current projects include:

- Wind Energy Opportunities
- New Economic Development Website/Video
- Housing Incentive Program
- Fitness Center Market Research
- Business Recruitment

- Sheyenne School Reuse Plan (looking at a lodge concept)

Some community issues are the lack of commercial property for lease, tourism infrastructure needs improvement, housing, cell tower access, and lack of funds.

Bob Wurl – Hankinson Community Development Corporation

Bob is the President of the local bank in Hankinson and secretary-treasurer of the Hankinson Development Corporation. They have a 5 member volunteer board. They have a Renaissance Zone, are working on a community website, they participated in Marketplace for Entrepreneurs, etc.

VeraSun Energy will be opening their operations in Hankinson by the end of July 2008. They believe the availability of highway rail service and ample supplies of good quality water, sewer system, and natural gas will raise the number of inquiries for potential new industries moving into the area. They have had inquiries for large dairy operation opportunities. The city of Hankinson bought a 13 lot residential development for a cost of \$175,000. He would like to see the infrastructure for natural gas and paved roads to extend into the newly developed industrial areas throughout the city.

Assistance in negotiating tax exemptions for industry and expansion of infrastructure would be helpful. He would like to see the Department of Commerce work closely with regional councils, local job development authorities and community development groups to provide expertise and resources to put together presentations and answers to inquiries. They have done school, water tower, and housing improvements in Hankinson. They struggle with workforce issues due to the Dakota Magic Casino. They have a motel on the highway with six rooms and a café. They also have another home with four rooms for accommodations.

ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business, Pamela Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.


Pamela Schmidt

Chairperson

10-3-08
Date


Jill Schwab

Recorder

10-3-08
Date

FUTURE ACTION ITEMS:

- Shane Goettle to provide an update on actual results of the Experience North Dakota events since its inception.
- Jill L. Schwab to provide “HOTJOBS.com” and “North Dakota’s Economic Progress Since 2000” information to participants at the August 14, 2008, Community Roundtable meeting in Beulah, ND.
- Members should RSVP and anyone interested in transportation to the Beulah Community Roundtable or the Foundation meeting in Minot should contact Jill Schwab at 701-328-5312 or jischwab@nd.gov to make arrangements.
- Foundation members are encouraged to attend the Governor’s Rural Community Summit on August 26-27, 2008, at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck, ND.
- The Foundation should focus on a review of the Strategic Plan in 2009 based on the community input sessions during 2008. Shane Goettle will present information to the Foundation during the first quarter meeting in 2009.
- Shane Goettle to follow-up with the Foundation at the October 3, 2008, meeting in Minot regarding the impact of number of new jobs after visiting with the IB & L Committee on July 10, 2008.
- Foundation members should notify Jim Hirsch if they are interested in attending the Strategic Planning Retreat in Medora on August 18-19, 2008, at 701-328-5345 or jhirsch@nd.gov.
- Foundation member(s) to volunteer and lead the fundraising efforts or partner with Elaine Fremling during the next fiscal year.
- The Foundation should support the higher education roundtable plan, workforce/population recruitment incentives, strategic planning and leadership, and to establish a task force to accelerate development of energy/agricultural opportunities. Carol Goodman would like the Foundation to consider the Prairie Innovation Zone Program and the Vision North Dakota program.
- Foundation to provide the Governor’s Rural Community Summit with a sponsorship for \$1,000.
- The Workforce Intelligence Council will be placed on the October 3, 2008, agenda to report back their results to the Foundation on Quantifying Revenue Loss Due to the Lack of Workforce.

~APPENDIX A~

FOUNDATION MEETING MINUTES – JULY 9, 2008

Due to the lack of a quorum until 12:00 p.m., the following action items were approved on a roll-call vote from the previous committee meeting held on July 9th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Pamela Schmidt asked for a motion to approve the July 9, 2008, agenda.

Motion: Tim Hennessy moved to approve the July 9, 2008, agenda. Elaine Fremling seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Pamela Schmidt asked for a motion to approve the April 1, 2008, minutes.

Motion: Dante Miller moved to approve the April 1, 2008, minutes. Tim Hennessy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

GOVERNOR'S RURAL COMMUNITY SUMMIT

Pamela Schmidt asked for a motion for the Foundation to sponsor the Governor's Rural Community Summit in the amount of \$1,000.

Motion: Elaine Fremling moved that the Foundation provide the Governor's Rural Community Summit a sponsorship for \$1,000. Kathy Gaddie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

QUANTIFY REVENUE LOSS FOR LEGISLATURE DUE TO LACK OF WORKFORCE

Motion: Elaine Fremling moved that the Foundation defer this issue to the Workforce Intelligence Council in an attempt to determine whether it's possible to gather the information to quantify the loss of workforce and workforce intelligence needs. The Council would conduct research and provide their results to the Foundation and to the North Dakota Department of Commerce that can be used during the legislative session. Dante Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Pamela Schmidt asked for a motion to approve the Foundation's quarterly financial statements.

Motion: Dante Miller moved to approve the Quarterly Financial Statements as of June 30, 2008. Tim Hennessey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

YEARLY BUDGET REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Motion: Elaine Fremling moved to approve the 2008-2009 budget as presented. Kathy Gaddie seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Rescinded Motion: Elaine Fremling moved to rescind her original motion to accept the 2008-2009 budget. Dante Miller seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Amended Motion: Elaine Fremling moved to amend the motion to approve the 2008-2009 budget which would include a future reimbursement of \$15,000 from the North Dakota Department of Commerce to the Foundation for the benchmark expenditure which will result in a positive budget amount. Dante Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – 2008-2009 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Pamela Schmidt asked for a motion to approve the 2008-2009 Election of Officers.

Motion: Dante Miller moved to approve the 2008-2009 Election of Officers. Tim Hennessey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENT OF MARK NISBET TO THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE COMMISSION

Motion: Kathy Gaddie moved to re-appoint Mark Nisbet for another term to the Centers of Excellence Commission. Dante Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pamela Schmidt asked for a motion to approve all of the committee's decisions by the full Foundation Board on July 9, 2008:

Motion: John Q. Paulsen moved to approve all of the Committee's decisions by the full Foundation Board on July 9, 2008. Kathy Gaddie, Frank Keogh, Tim Hennessy, Pamela Schmidt, John Paulsen, Duaine Espegard, Dante Miller, and Elaine Fremling voted aye. No negative votes were cast.

Motion carried.